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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/612,870	07/10/2000	Heikki Rautila	4925-35	9853

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EXAMINER

SALTARELLI, DOMINIC D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2611

DATE MAILED: 11/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/612,870

Applicant(s)

RAUTILA ET AL

Examiner

Dominic D Saltarelli

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 12-14 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 and 15-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 18-20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferris et al. (WO 99/04568, of record) [Ferris] in view of Srinivasan et al. (6,357,042) [Srinivasan].

Regarding claim 1, Ferris discloses a method for providing interactive entertainment to a plurality of users (page 1, lines 5-10 and page 15, lines 1-4), each having a television receiver (fig. 3, receiver 405) for receiving program information from a service (page 11, lines 1-8) through a first communication path (fig. 3, from transmitter 404 to receiver 405) and a terminal (fig. 3, remote control device 417) connectable to the service through a two-way communication path (page 13, lines 16-24), said method comprising the steps of:

Transmitting television programs to the receivers through the first communication path (col. 11, lines 1-8).

Ferris fails to disclose logging a user into a network server associated with the service through the two-way communication path using the terminal;

Informing said server of user preferences using the terminal;

Determining, by said server, that a demographic group of users is logged onto said server based on information received by said two-way communication path and the user preferences of users that are currently logged onto the network server by the terminals;

Controlling in said network server, according to user preferences of said demographic group of users, transmission of at least one of program content and first supplemental information pertaining to a program to the television receivers of at least the users in said demographic group of users; and

Displaying, by said television receivers of at least the users in said demographic group of users, a video and data display based on the at least one of program content and first supplemental information transmitted over the first communication path and subjected to control by said network server.

In an analogous art, Srinivasan teaches a dynamic advertisement insertion service (col. 31, lines 30-47) wherein users log onto a network server associated with the service through a two-way communication path (clients log onto the ad server, col. 32, lines 41-56, through the internet, a two-way communications path, col. 31, lines 30-36), said server is informed of user preferences (over the internet, col. 31, lines 48-57), and wherein said server determines that a demographic group of users is logged onto said server based on information received by said two-way communication path and the user preferences of users that are currently logged onto the network server by the terminals (the 'compound profile' of clients logged onto the server which is used

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to determine which ads are to be inserted into a broadcast program, col. 32, lines 41-56) and transmitting program content pertaining to a program to the television receivers of at least the users in said demographic group of users (program content is targeted advertisements to a specific demographic, col. 31 line 67 – col. 32 line 11 and col. 32 lines, 57-67), wherein the content and data is received by a television receiver (col. 33, lines 12-20), and displaying a video and data display based on the program content under control of the said server (the video and data are interactive advertisements viewed by users, col. 32 line 57 – col. 33 line 20). This provides broadcasters with a more efficient means to properly target their advertisements.

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclosed by Ferris to include logging a user into a network server associated with the service through the two-way communication path, informing said server of user preferences, determining, by said server, that a demographic group of users is logged onto said server based on information received by said two-way communication path and the user preferences of users that are currently logged onto the network server, controlling in said network server, according to user preferences of said demographic group of users, transmission of program content to the television receivers of the users in said demographic group of users, and displaying, by said television receivers of users in said demographic group of users, a video and data display based on the program content transmitted over the first communication path and subjected to

control by said network server, as taught by Srinivasan, for the benefit of more efficiently targeting advertisements to maximize the effectiveness of advertisements.

Regarding claim 3, Ferris and Srinivasan disclose the method of claim 1, and further disclose all broadcast supplemental information is determined according to time of transmission of a television program (Ferris, supplemental information is time synchronized with television broadcasts, page 11 line 26 – page 12 line 9).

Regarding claim 5, Ferris and Srinivasan disclose the method of claim 1, and further disclose:

Maintaining, in association with the network server (Ferris, fig. 3, server 420), a first database (Ferris, fig. 3, database 410) of information for each user (Ferris, page 19, lines 14-17) including identification (user's name, Ferris, page 15, lines 11-12), address information (user's address, Ferris, page 15, lines 11-12), financial information (credit card details, Ferris, page 14, lines 17-22), and demographic information (age, sex, geographic location, stored in 410, Ferris, page 19, lines 11-19);

Receiving in the network server from user data terminals over the network current preference information (Ferris teaches: user purchasing preference, page

23, lines 16-26, user voting preference, page 24, lines 6-17, user gambling preference, page 25, lines 7-14);

Wherein said step of logging a user into a network server (Srinivasan, col. 32, lines 52-56) comprises receiving in the network server from the user data terminals (Ferris, fig. 3, remote control 417) over the network (radio service network taught by Ferris in fig. 3) and maintaining in a second database (where user preferences in the form of user activity is stored, as taught by Srinivasan, col. 31, lines 48-57), for each user, registration information indicating current activity and current preference information (Srinivasan, col. 31, lines 48-57);

Wherein said step of displaying a video and data display also comprises sending a message from the network server over the network for display on a user's terminal (Ferris, fig. 2B, page 24, lines 6-13).

Regarding claim 8, Ferris and Srinivasan disclose the method of claim 5, and further disclose the current preference information provided by a user includes a request for additional information regarding television content (Ferris, page 14, lines 26-27) the user is registered as viewing (Srinivasan, col. 31, lines 48-57), and wherein the network server (Ferris, fig. 3, central processing station 420) arranges for additional information to be mailed to the user (Ferris, page 15, lines 11-12) at an address retrieved from the first database (Ferris, fig. 3, user database 410).

Regarding claim 10, Ferris and Srinivasan disclose the method of claim 5, and further disclose the current preference information provided by a user includes a request to purchase an item (Ferris, page 24, lines 6-13) currently featured in television content (Ferris, fig. 2B) the user is registered as viewing (Srinivasan, col. 31, lines 48-57), and wherein the network server (Ferris, fig. 3, central processing station 420) arranges for the item to be shipped to the user (using user's name and address, page 15, lines 11-12, for a purchase) and arranges to debit the user for cost of the item from a financial account according (credit card information is on file, page 14, lines 17-22) to the first database (Ferris, database 410).

Regarding claims 16 and 17, Ferris discloses a system for providing interactive video (col. 15, lines 1-4) and data displays (figs. 2A-2L, page 23, lines 3-15) to each of a plurality of users, comprising:

A network server (fig. 3, central processing station 420);

A television receiver associated with each user (fig. 3, receiver 405) for receiving television program signals over a first communications path (from content T/X 404 to content R/X 405);

A data terminal associated with each user (fig. 3, terminal 417) and connectable to said network server through a second two-way communication path (radio service, 415, 417); and

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A first database (fig. 3, user database 410) associated with the network server for storing persistent information descriptive of each user (page 14, lines 14-22 and page 19, lines 14-19).

Ferris fails to disclose:

A second database associated with the network server for storing current preference information submitted by users by the second two-way communication path;

The network server is for controlling transmission of television programs;

The data terminals are for logging onto said network server and transmitting user preferences to said network server;

Said network server is adapted to determine that a demographic group of users is logged onto said server based on information received by said two-way communication path and the user preferences of users that are currently logged onto the network server by the data terminals, and control, according to user preferences of said demographic group of users, transmission of at least one of program content and first supplemental information pertaining to a program to the television receivers of at least the users in said demographic group of users; and

Said television receivers being adapted to display a video and data display based on the at least one of the program content and the first supplemental information transmitted over the first communication path and subjected to control by said network server.

In an analogous art, Srinivasan teaches a dynamic advertisement insertion service (col. 31, lines 30-47) wherein users log onto a network server associated with the service, wherein said network server controls the transmission of television programs (col. 32, lines 57-67), through a two-way communication path (clients log onto the ad server, col. 32, lines 41-56, through the internet, a two-way communications path, col. 31, lines 30-36), said server is informed of user preferences (over the internet, col. 31, lines 48-57), and wherein said server determines that a demographic group of users is logged onto said server based on information received by said two-way communication path and the user preferences of users that are currently logged onto the network server by the terminals (the 'compound profile' of clients logged onto the server which is used to determine which ads are to be inserted into a broadcast program, col. 32, lines 41-56) and transmitting program content pertaining to a program to the television receivers of at least the users in said demographic group of users (program content is targeted advertisements to a specific demographic, col. 31 line 67 – col. 32 line 11 and col. 32 lines, 57-67), wherein the content and data is received by a television receiver (col. 33, lines 12-20), and displaying a video and data display based on the program content under control of the said server (the video and data are interactive advertisements viewed by users, col. 32 line 57 – col. 33 line 20). This provides broadcasters with a more efficient means to properly target their advertisements.

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclosed by Ferris to include logging a user into a network server associated with the service through the two-way communication path, informing said server of user preferences, determining, by said server, that a demographic group of users is logged onto said server based on information received by said two-way communication path and the user preferences of users that are currently logged onto the network server, controlling in said network server, according to user preferences of said demographic group of users, transmission of program content to the television receivers of the users in said demographic group of users, as the server controls the transmission of television broadcasts, and displaying, by said television receivers of users in said demographic group of users, a video and data display based on the program content transmitted over the first communication path and subjected to control by said network server, as taught by Srinivasan, for the benefit of more efficiently targeting advertisements to maximize the effectiveness of advertisements.

3. Claims 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferris and Srinivasan, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Lett (5,539,822, of record).

Regarding claim 2, user preferences are described in the disclosure as not only persistent information, but volatile information such as user participation, page 4, lines 9-12 and page 7, lines 4-11, including voting, page 9, lines 16-21.

Thus, regarding claim 2, Ferris and Srinivasan disclose the method of claim 1, and additionally disclose user preferences (Ferris, user voting preference, fig. 2D) are input through the terminal (Ferris, fig. 3, terminal 417) to the network server in conjunction with current program content (Ferris, page 24, lines 6-17), but fail to disclose this partially alters current program content provided to the user.

In an analogous art, Lett teaches an interactive television broadcast system (col. 16, lines 2-14) wherein current program content provided to a user is partially altered in response to input user preference information (results of a user poll, col. 18, lines 36-43), which only partially alters broadcast content (overlay, col. 16, lines 33-36), allowing the results of transmitted user preferences to be displayed to a user (col. 18, lines 59-67).

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclosed by Ferris and Srinivasan, to include partially altering current program content provided to the user, as taught by Lett. The reason for doing so is to display the results of transmitted user preferences to the user of the interactive television method.

Regarding claim 4, Ferris, Srinivasan, and Lett disclose the method of claim 2, and further disclose said supplemental information elicits a vote from a user (Ferris, fig. 2D, page 24, lines 14-17), said user preferences input through a terminal (Ferris, fig. 3, terminal 417) include a user's vote (Ferris, page 24, lines

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14-17), and said supplemental information subsequently includes information descriptive of user's voting (Lett, col. 18, lines 36-67).

4. Claim 6, 7, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferris and Srinivasan as applied to claim 5 above, and further, in view of Rosser (6,446,261, of record).

Regarding claim 6, Ferris and Srinivasan disclose the method of claim 5, but fail to disclose the step of determining that a demographic group of users is logged onto the network servers comprises determining according to current registrations in conjunction with said demographic information a determined preponderant demographic group currently viewing a television program, and the step of modifying content comprises replacing advertisements in the television program with advertisements predetermined to be targeted at said determined preponderant demographic group.

In an analogous art, Rosser teaches a television distribution method (col. 6, lines 11-20) wherein a determined preponderant demographic group (all the people who meet an advertiser's requirements, col. 13, lines 57-63) watching a particular program (col. 12 line 55 – col. 13 line 4) is determined according to current registrations (known viewers of a program, the viewing population, col. 12, lines 55-60) in conjunction with demographic information (col. 12 line 60 – col. 13 line 2), and replacing advertisements in the television program with advertisements predetermined to be targeted at said preponderant demographic

group (col. 13, lines 34-58), allowing an advertiser to target their advertisement to the demographic group they are most interested.

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclosed by Ferris and Srinivasan to include determining according to current registrations in conjunction with said demographic information a determined preponderant demographic group currently viewing a television program; and replacing advertisements in the television program with advertisements predetermined to be targeted at said determined preponderant demographic group, as taught by Rosser. The reason for doing so is to allow an advertiser to target their advertisement to the demographic group they are most interested that is a part of the viewing audience of the interactive entertainment method.

Regarding claim 7, Ferris and Srinivasan disclose the method of claim 5, but fail to disclose the step of determining that a demographic group of users is logged onto the network server comprises:

Determining according to current registrations in conjunction with demographic information a determined plurality of demographic groups watching a particular program; and

The step of modifying content comprises, for each of said determined plurality of demographic groups exceeding in size a predetermined threshold, replacing advertisements in the television program as transmitted via satellite

transmission with advertisements predetermined to be targeted at each demographic group and inserting control information in the television transmission for instructing user's set top boxes to extract and forward information targeted at the demographic group.

In an analogous art, Rosser teaches a television distribution method (col. 6, lines 11-20) wherein a determined plurality (col. 13, lines 6-12) of demographic groups watching a particular program (col. 12 line 55 – col. 13 line 4) is determined according to current registrations (known viewers of a program, the viewing population, col. 12, lines 55-60) in conjunction with demographic information (col. 12 line 60 – col. 13 line 2); and

For each of said determined plurality of demographic groups exceeding in size a predetermined threshold (audience segments, col. 13, lines 4-12), replacing advertisements in the television program (col. 13, lines 13-41) as transmitted via satellite transmission (col. 13, lines 10-12) with advertisements predetermined to be targeted at each demographic group (col. 13, lines 49-63) and inserting control information in the television transmission (usage profile keys, col. 7, lines 46-58) for instructing user's set top boxes (fig. 1, set top 44) to extract and forward information (col. 7, lines 46-51) in conjunction with demographic information (user profile, col. 7, lines 51-58), allowing a broadcaster to actively sell advertising time to advertisers that is specifically targeted to particular demographic groups (col. 13, lines 4-12).

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclosed by Ferris and Srinivasan to include determining according to current registrations in conjunction with demographic information a determined plurality of demographic groups watching a particular program, for each of said determined plurality of demographic groups exceeding in size a predetermined threshold, replacing advertisements in the television program as transmitted via satellite transmission with advertisements predetermined to be targeted at each demographic group and inserting control information in the television transmission for instructing user's set top boxes to extract and forward information targeted at the demographic group, as taught by Rosser. The reason for doing so is to allow the broadcaster of the interactive television method to actively sell advertising time to advertisers that is specifically targeted to particular demographic groups.

Regarding claim 9, Ferris and Srinivasan disclose the method of claim 5, and further disclose the current preference information provided by a user (preference information in the form of user interactions, Ferris, page 14, last paragraph) includes requests for additional information regarding television content (Ferris, page 14, lines 26-27, wherein the interaction is a request for further information which informs the sponsor) the user is registered as viewing (Srinivasan, col. 32, lines 41-56), and additionally disclose the transmission is by cable or satellite (Ferris, page 11, lines 1-8), but fail to disclose wherein the

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network server appends such additional information to the television transmission for viewing.

In an analogous art, Rosser teaches a television distribution method (col. 6, lines 11-20) wherein additional information (graphic or video, col. 7, lines 5-10) is appended to a television transmission by a network server (central studio site 34) for viewing (insertion into viewing devices, col. 7, lines 46-58), displaying the additional information coincidentally with broadcast information in real time (col. 7, lines 34-45), making it seem like part of the original broadcast.

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclosed by Ferris, Montero, and Blahut to include the network server appends the additional information to the television transmission for viewing, as taught by Rosser. The reason for doing so is to display the additional information coincidental with broadcast information, making it seem like part of the original broadcast to the user of the interactive method.

5. Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferris and Srinivasan as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Scagnelli et al. (5,415,416, of record) [Scagnelli].

Regarding claim 11, Ferris and Srinivasan disclose the method of claim 5, and further disclose the current preference information provided by a user includes a request to participate in an interactive wager (Ferris, fig. 2G, page 25,

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lines 7-14), and wherein the network server (Ferris, fig. 3, central processing station 420):

Prompts the user to place a bet (page 25, lines 9-10); and

Debits the user for participating in the wager from a financial account according to the first database (wagering is a financial transaction, Ferris, page 14, lines 17-22); and

Enters the user in the wager (the point of the process).

Ferris and Srinivasan fail to disclose the user is participating in a lottery wherein user selected lottery numbers are validated and user participation is confirmed with a message.

In an analogous art, Scagnelli teaches an interactive lottery method (col. 3, lines 20-22) wherein a user is prompted to select lottery numbers (figs. 5 and 5B, VRU requests callers numbers) and the lottery numbers are validated (figs. 5 and 5B, confirmation steps), and user participation is confirmed with a message (fig. 5B, final response from VRU), allowing players to remotely participate in the lottery of their choice.

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclosed by Ferris and Srinivasan to include the choice for users to participate in a lottery wherein user selected lottery numbers are validated and user participation is confirmed with a message, as taught by Scagnelli. The reason for doing so is to enhance to the interactive features to the interactive entertainment method by allowing users to also participate in a lottery.

6. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ferris, Montero, and Blahut as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Harrison (5,694,163).

Regarding claim 15, Ferris and Srinivasan disclose the method of claim 5, but fail to disclose the current preference information provided by a user includes commentary regarding the television program the user is registered as viewing, and wherein the network server forwards messages for displaying a user's commentary to other users registered as viewing the same program.

In an analogous art, Harrison teaches a television broadcast network (col. 3, lines 53-55) wherein user's can chat with other user's over a television broadcast signal (col. 6, lines 40-49), negating the need to pay for telephone line connections for chat service (col. 3, lines 28-34) and allowing user's who are not participating in the chat to still view what is being said (col. 3, lines 12-34).

It would have been obvious at the time to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclosed by Ferris and Srinivasan to include user commentary regarding the television program the user is registered as viewing, and wherein the network server forwards messages for displaying a user's commentary to other users registered as viewing the same program, as taught by Harrison. The reason for doing so is to negate the need to pay for telephone line connections for chat service and allow all users of the interactive entertainment

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method watching the same channel to see what commentary is being input by other users.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 12-14 are allowed.
8. Claims 18-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 16, and 17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of rejection, as the new combination of Ferris and Srinivasan addresses the amended features of logging onto the network server using the terminal (claim 1, lines 7-8 and claim 16, lines 6-8 and claim 17, lines 5-6) and determining a demographic group from the users who have logged onto the server (claim 1, lines 10-12 and claim 16, lines 15-21 and claim 17, lines 7-9).

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

11. The following are suggested formats for either a Certificate of Mailing or Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8(a). The certification may be included with all correspondence concerning this application or proceeding to establish a date of mailing or transmission under 37 CFR 1.8(a). Proper use of this procedure will result in such communication being considered as timely if the established date is within the required period for reply. The Certificate should be signed by the individual actually depositing or transmitting the correspondence or by an individual who, upon information and belief, expects the correspondence to be mailed or transmitted in the normal course of business by another no later than the date indicated.

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Certificate of Mailing

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Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate:

Signature: _____

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Please refer to 37 CFR 1.6(d) and 1.8(a)(2) for filing limitations concerning facsimile transmissions and mailing, respectively.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dominic D Saltarelli whose telephone number is (703) 305-8660. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10-7.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Grant can be reached on (703) 305-4755. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Dominic Saltarelli
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2611

DS


CHRIS GRANT
PRIMARY EXAMINER